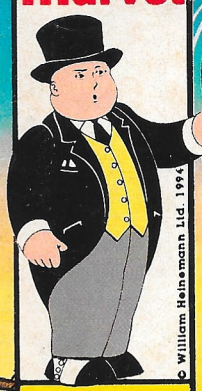
KINNERTON EASTER EGG COMPETITION - INSIDE!

Marvel



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25th Mar.94
№ 168 65p

THOMAS THE TANK ENGINE & FRIENDS

Based on the Railway Series by The Rev. W. Awdry.

HAROLD

A BOX OF CRAYONS FOR YOU!

CE
WH Cornelius Ltd,
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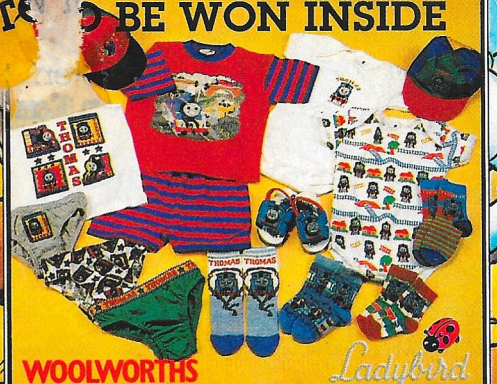
Not suitable for children under 36 months. Please retain this information.

TH OMAS CLOTHING
T BE WON INSIDE



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NOTICEBOARD

Peep! Peep! Harold the Helicopter is a very important member of the Fat Controller's Railway. It's very easy for Harold to fly over Thomas's branch line. It's much quicker than using engine wheels! In fact, Harold doesn't usually need much help from his engine friends. However, in the story that begins on page 3, you can find out why Thomas has to rescue Harold! Peep! Peep!

OUR SPECIAL COMPETITION!

Turn to pages **12 & 13** for an exclusive chance to win some new colourful Thomas Clothes from *Ladybird at Woolworths.*

Turn to page **7** to enter our special **Kinnerton Easter Confectionery Offer**. We are giving away **24 Egg cups!**

How to obtain your Fat Controller's Card!

If you would like to receive your very own, splendid **Fat Controller's Card** send one red, yellow and blue token together with your details listed below (details need only be listed on any one of the 3 coloured tokens when applying for this offer) plus a stamped addressed envelope to: **The Fat Controller's Card Offer, Marvel Comics Ltd, 13/15 Arundel Street, London WC2.**

Name .....

Address .....

.....

Postcode .....

Age .....

THOMAS TOKEN

ABC CONSUMER PRESS

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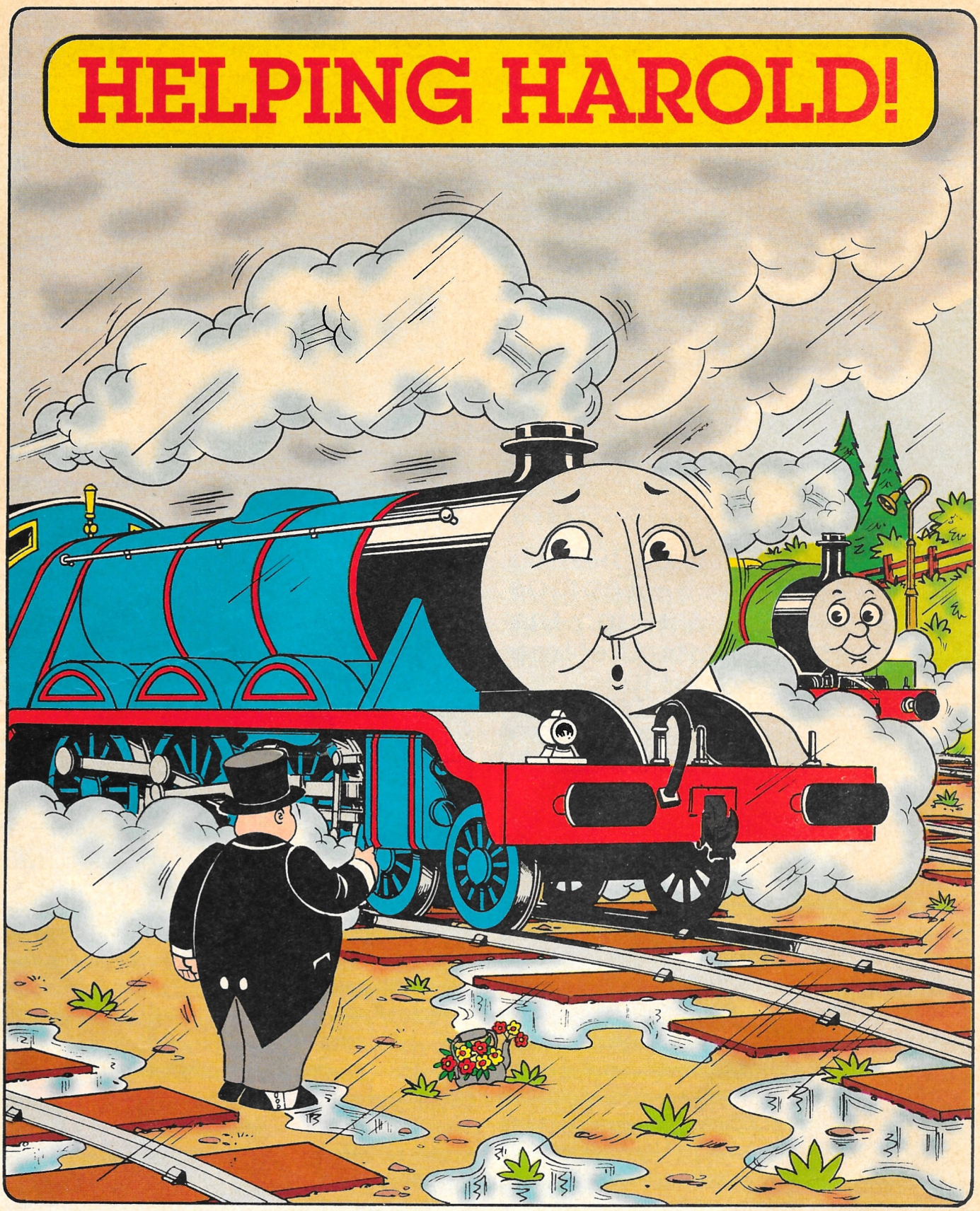
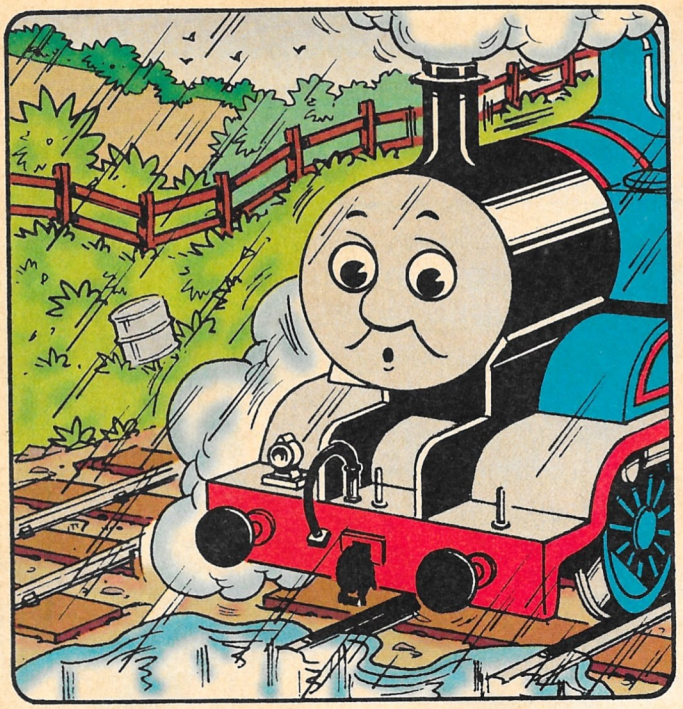
HELPING HAROLD!



1. Torrential rain was falling on the Island of Sodor. The engines were having terrible journeys back to the Main Station with their carriages.

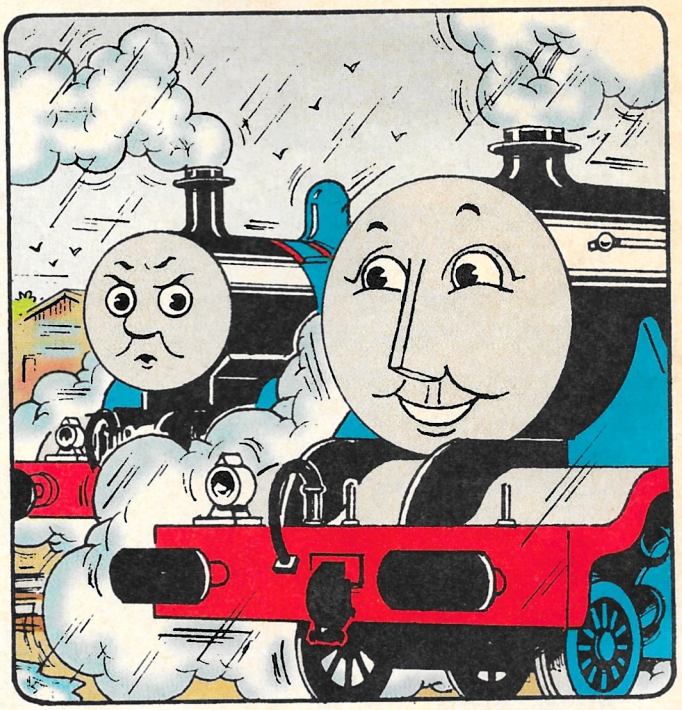
2. "There's flood water everywhere!" said Gordon. The Fat Controller was worried. "Thomas is still out on his branch line," he replied, anxiously.



3. The engines were very concerned about Thomas, too. Meanwhile, Thomas puffed bravely through the rain until he saw the line ahead was flooded.

4. Thomas's driver braked sharply. "A stream has overflowed and covered the track!" he said. "If you go on, you'll be trapped!" Thomas had to back up.

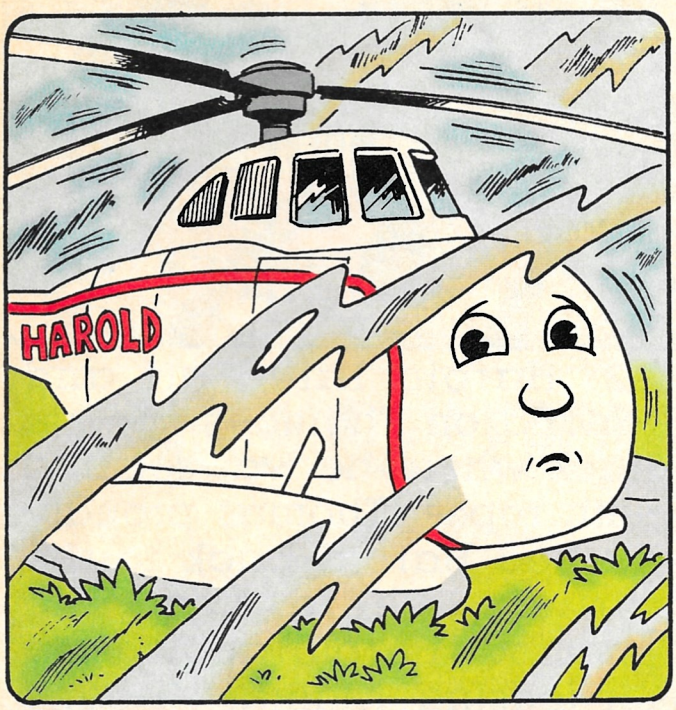
5. While Thomas made the difficult return trip to the Main Station yard, Harold the Helicopter swept by. "I can fly over the floods!" he called.



6. "Helicopters are more useful than old-fashioned engines!" teased Harold. "Cheek!" steamed Thomas. When he reached the yard, everyone was relieved.

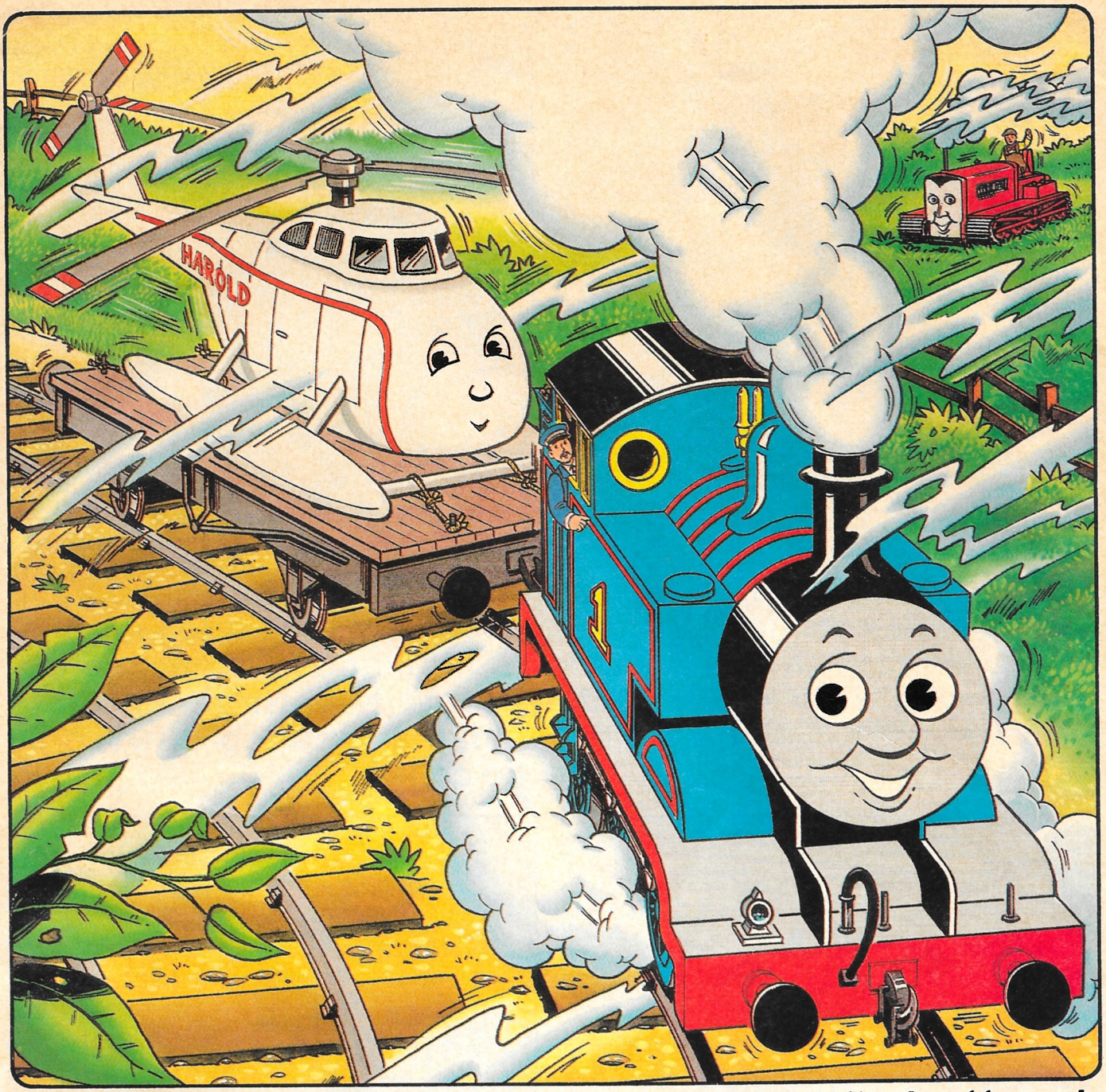
7. At last, the rain stopped and it was safe for Thomas to use his branch line again. But it was very misty and Thomas puffed along carefully.

8. As he delivered some goods trucks to a station siding, Thomas's driver heard Harold hovering. "He's circling! Something is wrong!" he called.



9. "Perhaps Harold can't see in this thick mist!" said Thomas. He was right. Luckily, Harold's pilot glimpsed the track and made an emergency landing.

10. Harold settled in a muddy field near the line and became bogged down. When Thomas returned to the Main Station, he was coupled to a special truck.



11. "It's for carrying a helicopter," said the Fat Controller. "You must help rescue Harold!" Thomas set off urgently through the mist until he reached the track near Harold. Terence the Tractor pulled Harold out of the mud. "It's too dangerous to fly to the airfield in this mist!" said Harold's pilot.

12. Harold lifted off and landed on Thomas's special truck where he was secured with ropes. Thomas proudly carried Harold back to the airfield where everyone cheered. Harold apologised for teasing Thomas. "I can't fly in this mist but a tank-engine like you can still go flying along!" he joked to Thomas. **THE END!**

In our next issue: The spooky signalbox!

A REALLY USEFUL IDEA FOR EASTER 1994!

Thomas fans can have a super surprise on Easter Day with their very own Thomas the Tank Engine moulded train egg cup, complete with Milk Chocolate Egg and Milk Chocolate Fat Controller figure!

24 Thomas Egg Cups to be won!

How to enter:
All you have to do for your chance of winning a Thomas Egg Cup is answer the following question:

What colour is James' dome?
(a. Yellow b Red c Blue).

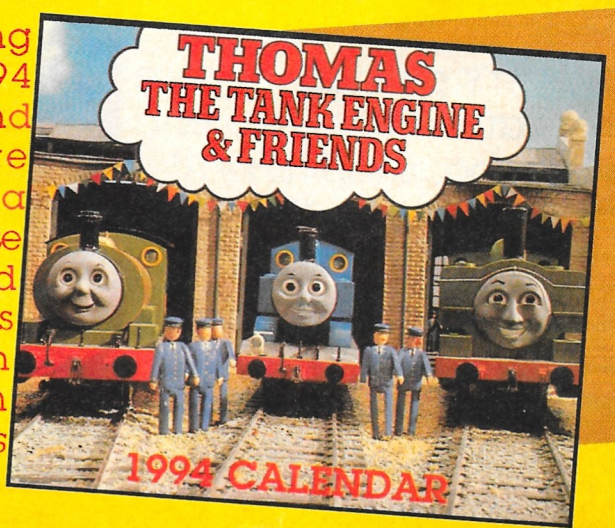
Send your answer on a postcard to the following address : *Thomas/Kinnerton Competition, Marvel Comics, 13-15 Arundel St, London, WC2R 3DX.* The first 24 correct entries will win a Thomas egg cup!

KINNERTON
Confectionery

Stockists include: High street chains, supermarkets, large department stores, independent retailers and newsagents.

A BIG SORRY FROM JUDGES POSTCARDS!

Due to overwhelming demand for the 1994 Thomas the Tank Engine and Friends calendar, we were unable to meet the request of a number of people. We apologise for any disappointment caused and will ensure enough stocks are printed of the 1995 edition which will be available from April onwards - *Judges Postcards Ltd.*



STRANGE BEHAVIOUR!

It was a very bad day for the engines at the Main Station. Thomas and his friends had never known the Fat Controller to be in such a terrible mood. He snapped at them for going too slowly, or even too quickly, or just because their wheels squeaked when they pulled up. He was very short-tempered indeed.

"Whatever's the matter with him?" they all asked.

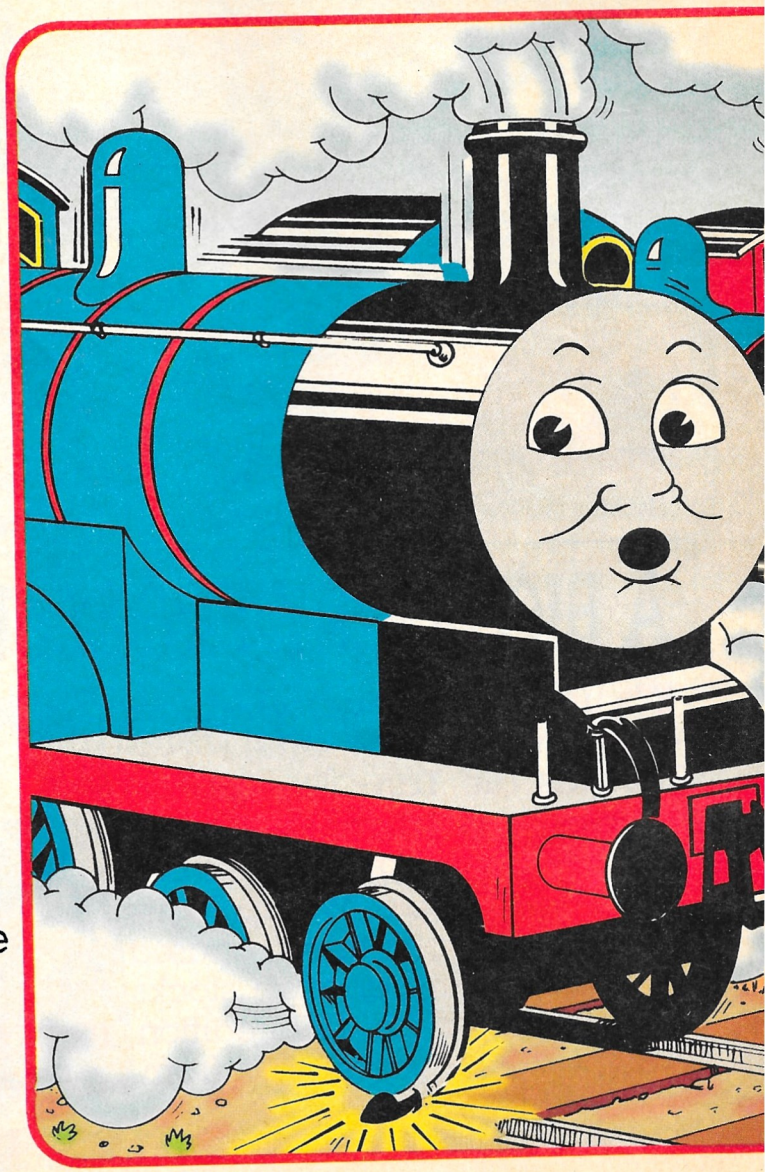
"Look out! Here he comes!" hissed Duck. At the sight of the Fat Controller's smart top hat and shiny black shoes, the engines wished they could steam away without being seen!

Suddenly, the Fat Controller tripped on a grating and almost fell over. To make matters worse, one of his new shoes came off. Before he could pick it up, the Stationmaster's pet dog playfully snatched it. The engines gasped.

"Bad dog! Put it down!" called the alarmed Stationmaster. The little dog obeyed but dropped the shoe on to the track!
That moment, Edward came chuffing into the Main Station.

He spotted the shoe and tried desperately to stop in time. Too late! Brakes squealing, his wheels ran over the shoe cutting it almost in half!

"Smoke and fire! Now we're for it!" groaned Thomas. "The Fat Controller will be more cross than ever!"
The engines were in for a shock. They could hardly



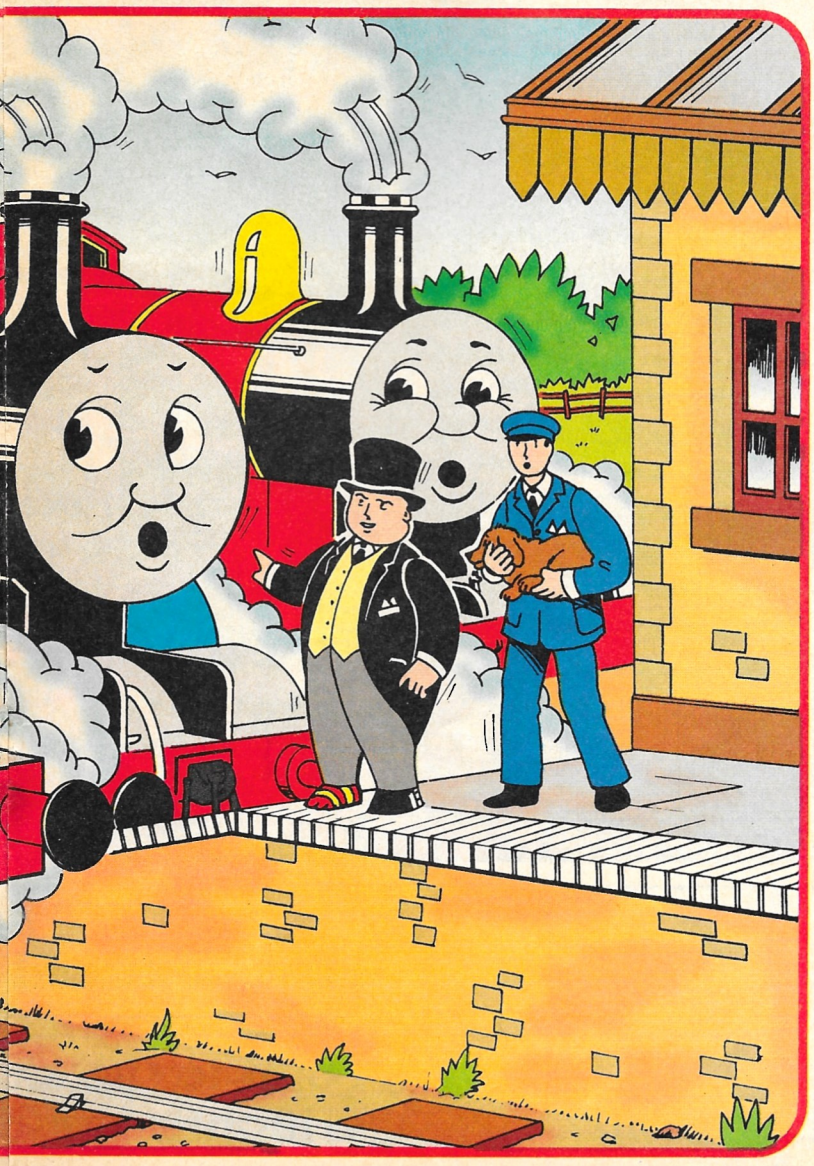
believe their eyes as the Fat Controller, with one shoe off and the other on, beamed with delight. He stooped to pick up the little dog then told the Stationmaster to buy it a bone, or even two, as a treat from him.

"I don't understand!" huffed Percy.

"He's behaving really strangely!" replied Thomas.

"Lucky for Edward!" added James.

Only later, after the Fat Controller had telephoned his wife, Lady Hatt, to bring him another pair of shoes to wear, did the engines find out the truth.



"It seems she bought the Fat Controller those new shoes," said Thomas. "He told my driver that he dared not tell Lady Hatt he didn't like them. They pinched his toes and made him very irritable indeed!"

"The accident was the perfect excuse for the Fat Controller to stop wearing the shoes, without upsetting Lady Hatt," chuckled Duck.

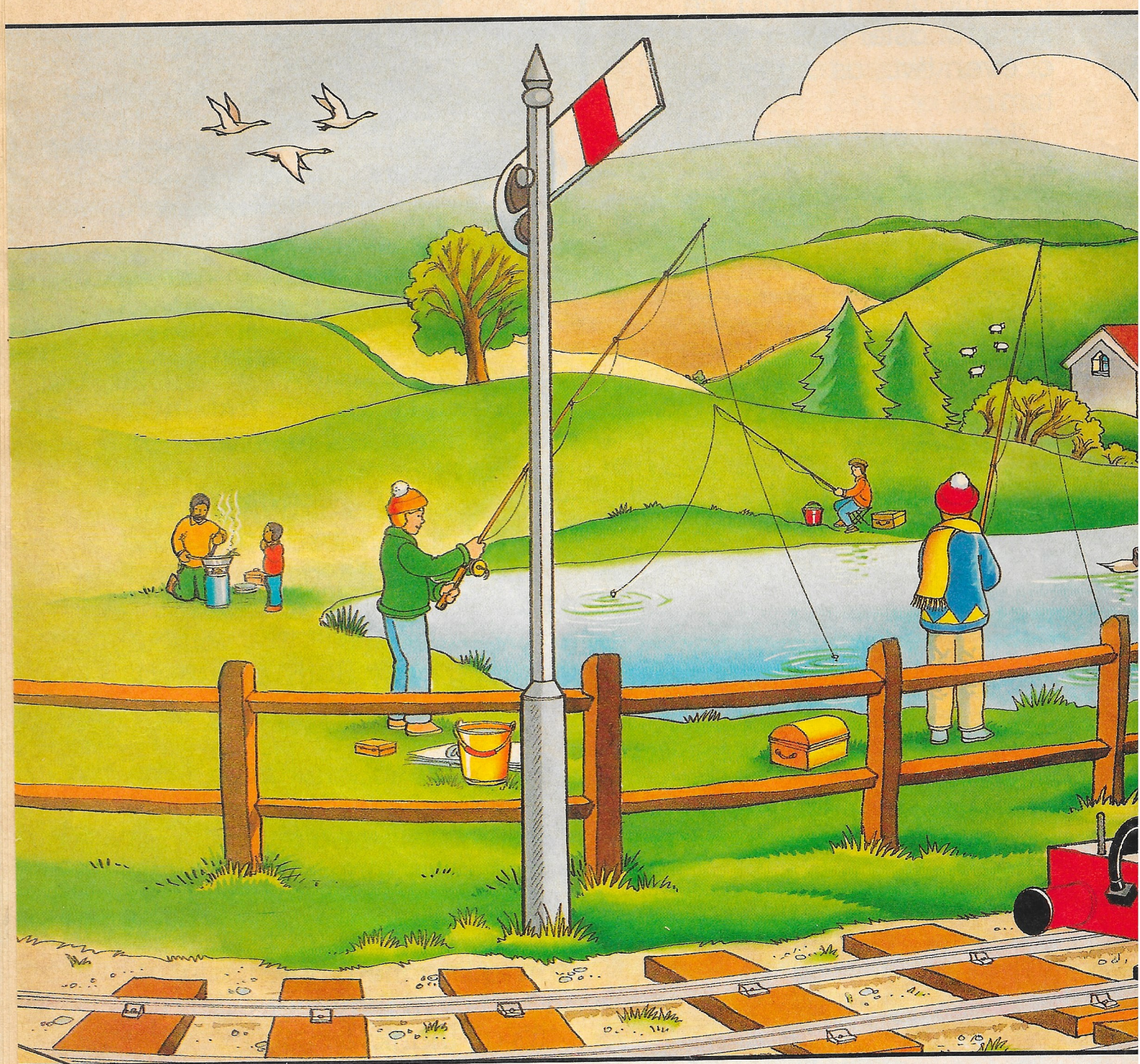
Sure enough, the Fat Controller cheered up no end and everything went back to normal at the Main Station. As the engines worked happily again, he was soon telling them how useful and efficient they were.

"It's all thanks to you, Edward," said Percy.

"And the Stationmaster's dog," added Thomas, grinning. "Without him, we'd all be leading a dog's life!"

THE END!

Past the lak



Which engine can you see?
What is his number?
What colour is his dome?
How many guards are in his cabin?

Point to the
How many
Point to the
Which way

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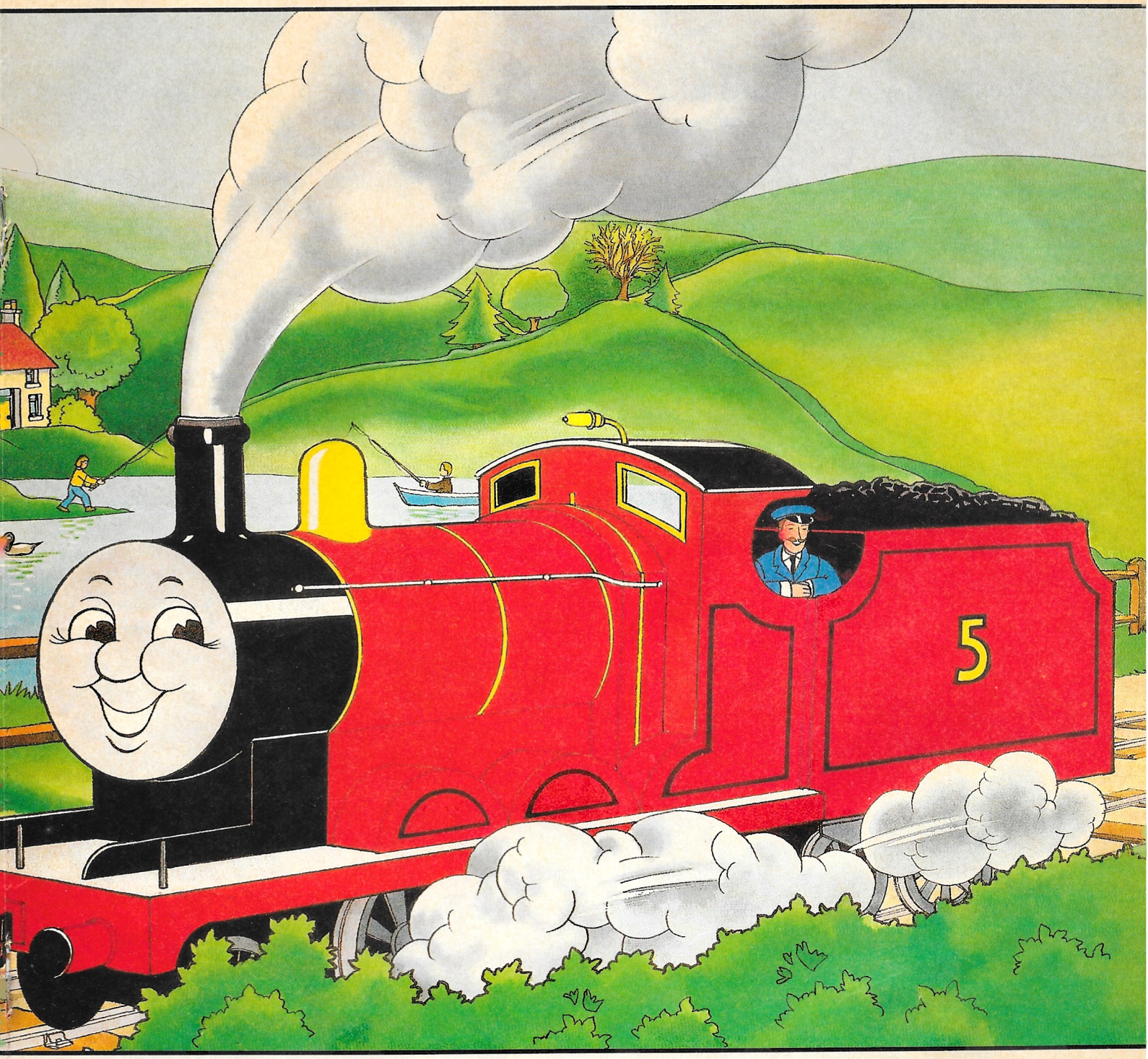


shing lake!
hermen can you see?
gnal!
it pointing?

Note for parents
This page is designed to form part of a colourful mural for your child's bedroom, playgroup or classroom. After you have finished reading the comic with your child, remove this part of the centrespread by cutting along the dotted line. There will be a 'mural page' in every issue of **Thomas the Tank Engine & Friends.** Why not collect each one and watch Thomas and his friends puff all round the room!

In our next issue: Past the Church Yard!

COMPETITION!

WIN A THOMAS OUTFIT!

Five lucky first prize winners will receive a Thomas Outfit comprising:

- ★A baseball Cap.
- ★Vest.
- ★3 pack briefs.
- ★T Shirt and Shorts.
- ★1 pair of Socks.
- ★1 pair of flip flops.

20 runner up prize winners will receive a **Thomas baseball cap.**

How to enter:

All you have to do for your chance to win a Thomas Outfit is answer the following question:

What colour are Ladybirds?

a.Blue with orange spots
b.Red with black spots
c.Yellow with green spots

Send your answer on a postcard with your name and address to *Thomas Ladybird Clothes Competition, Marvel Comics, 13-15 Arundel St, London WCR 3DX* by **April 8th'94.**

This competition is open all to readers other than employees of Marvel Comics Ltd, Britt Allcroft (Thomas) Ltd, Ladybird Clothing, Woolworths and William Heinemann Ltd. Due to available clothing sizes, the first five prizes will be awarded to children aged 3 and under only. The Editor's decision is final and no correspondence shall be entered into.

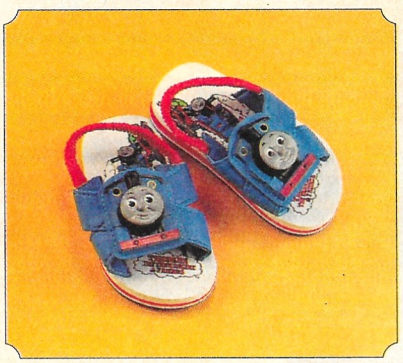
Our exciting Ladybird Clothing prizes include the following items listed below and are available in most Woolworths branches.

Red and blue T Shirt and Short set
Sizes available: 6-12 months, 12-18 months, 18-24 months, 2-3 years.
Price: £8.99.

4 pairs of Thomas socks
Babies shoe sizes: 0-2½, 3-5½, 6-8½.
Price for 1 pair: £1.65.
Boys shoe sizes: 6-8½, 9-12, 12½-3½.
Price for 1 pair: £1.75/£1.99

2 baseball caps
Babies Price £2.99.
Children's Price £3.50.

3 pack of briefs
Sizes: 2-3 years, 4-6 years, 7-8 years.
Price for pack of 3: £4.99



1 pair of flip flops
Shoe sizes: 4-5, 6-7, 8-9, 10-11, 12-13
Price: smaller sizes: £3.50.
Price: larger sizes: £3.99.

1 vest
Sizes: 2-3 years, 4-6 years, 7-8 years.
Price for 1 vest: £2.75.

Ladybird

WOOLWORTHS

The Ladybird symbol has stood for quality and style in children's clothing. Always bright, fun and comfortable, it's clothing that children want to wear, while the tough, easycare fabrics and value-for-money prices mean that parents love Ladybird too.

Babies Bodysuit
Sizes: 0-3 months, 3-6 months, 6-12 months, 12-18 months, 18-24 months.

Price for pack of 2: £4.99.

OTHER ITEMS AVAILABLE IN THE THOMAS LADYBIRD SPRING RANGE!

Padder Shoe
Sizes: 3-6 months, 6-12 months, 12-18 months. Price: £3.50.

Jogsuit
Sizes: 6-12 months, 12-18 months, 18-24 months, 2-3 years. Price: £12.99.

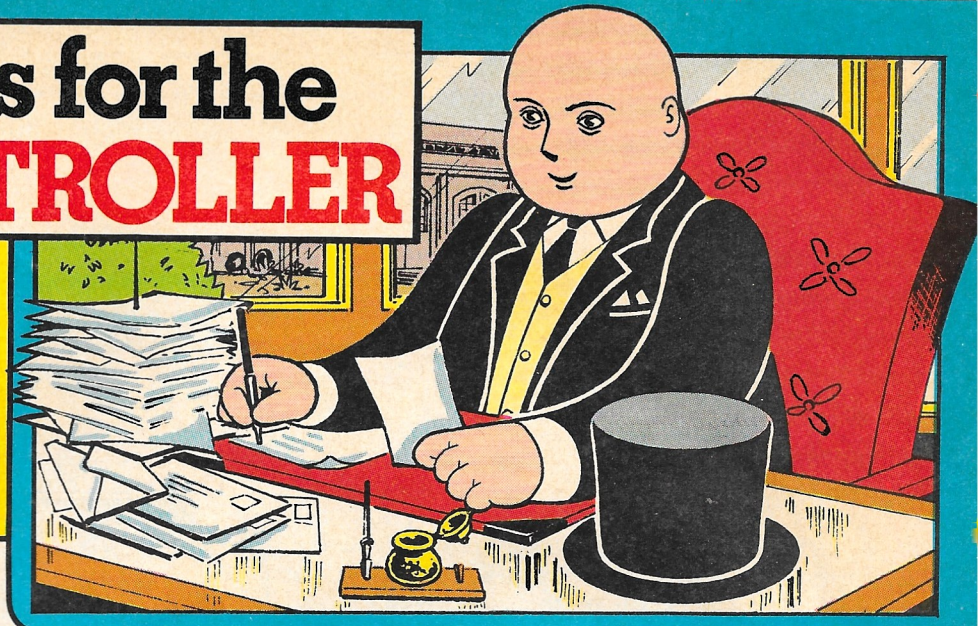
T Shirt and Shorts
(different supplier)
Sizes: 6-12 months, 12-18 months, 18-24 months, 2-3 years. Price: £8.99.

Shortie Pyjama
(available Easter 94)
Sizes: 2-3 years, 4-6 years, 7-8 years. Price: £7.99.

JOIN THE DOTS!

What are the guards delivering today, Join the dots and then you can say!

Your letters for the FAT CONTROLLER



Have you got an amusing story to tell? Do you have a question you would like to ask about Thomas or his friends? If so, then write to me at the address shown below! I would be so very pleased to hear from you!

STAR LETTER!

Dear Fat Controller,
I love all the engines very much. My favourite engine is Gordon, because he is big and strong. But why is James so grumpy most of the time?

Love from **Liam Knight.**

I do agree! Gordon is a very impressive engine, but so is James the red engine. I am aware that James is a very proud engine and he probably becomes a little grumpy when I ask him to do some of my less important jobs!

The sender of any letter that is printed as our **STAR LETTER** will win some splendid **Thomas Pre-school** toys courtesy of *ERTL (UK) Ltd.*

CLEANER ENGINES!

Dear Fat Controller,
When I went to my station, I saw a very fast train go by. The fast train was very dirty. Can you tell me when and where you wash and clean your engines?

Love from **Sophie,** aged 3.

We clean all our engine stock in the Maintenance shed. All the engine's are cleaned and polished once a week!

RAILWAY DAYS!

Dear Fat Controller,
The other day, my mum and dad took me to the *Havenstreet Steam Railway*. Every child that had a ride on the train was given a small teddybear to keep. I was wondering if you have special days like this on your railway!

Love from **Kelvin Nash,** aged 2.

Yes! I organise many special occasions for my railway! When I organise village fêtes, I always ask the Vicar and Trevor the Traction Engine to help me.

BIRTHDAYS!

Special greetings go out to...

Kieran Paul Meadows, Faye Stephenson, Paul Andrew Feesey, Matthew Weston, Ashley Wallace, Graeme Gallagher, Andrew Chapman, José Sanjuan Halman, Scott McCubbin, Matthew Wildman, Tom Jennings, Christopher Southcott, Wesley & Kyle Castillo, Kyle Anderson, Malcolm Millward, Donny Short and Matthew Henstridge.

If you would like a birthday mention printed in one of our future issues, please send details on a post-card at least **nine weeks** in advance!

Yours
Sir Topham Hatt
The Fat Controller!

Send your letters to:

The Fat Controller
The Island of Sodor
c/o Marvel Comics Ltd
13/15 Arundel Street
London WC2.

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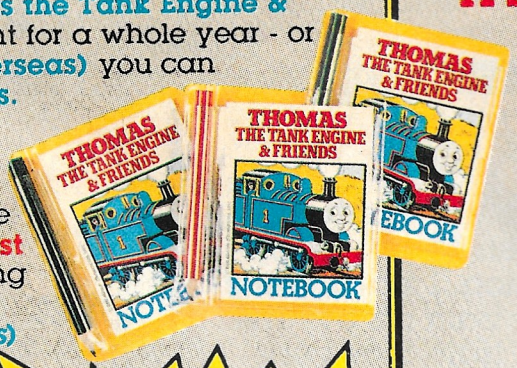
Subscribe to Thomas's very own magazine and receive a splendid diecast model of Thomas from ERTL®

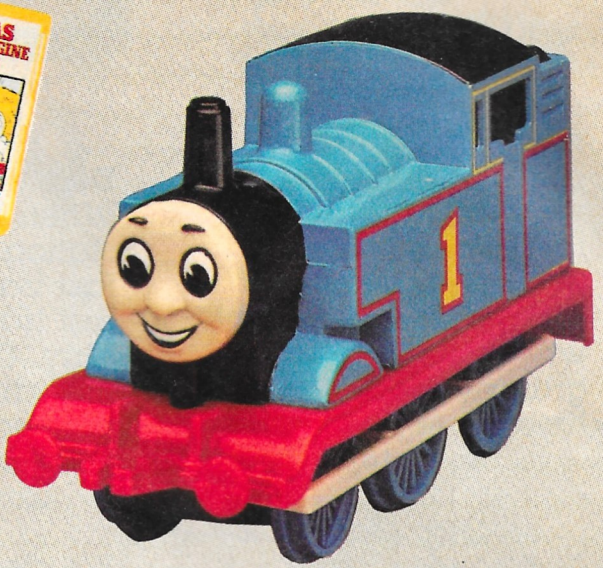
For just **£18.00 (35.00 overseas)**, your child will be sent **Thomas the Tank Engine & Friends** every fortnight for a whole year - or for **£10.00 (£18.00 overseas)** you can subscribe for **6 months.**

Additionally, if you subscribe for a **whole year (UK subscribers only)** you will receive a **FREE Thomas diecast model** plus a charming **notebook** and **pencil** ***(see opposite pictures)*** and personalised **Fat Controller's Card** enabling you to enter offers and competitions frequently open to **Fat Controller's Card** holders. Simply fill out the appropriate form below!

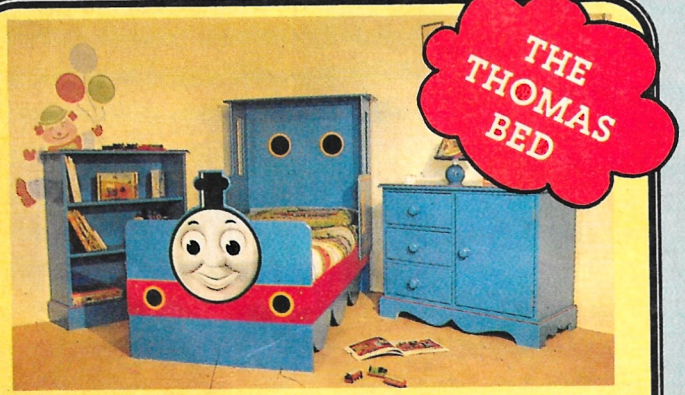


JOSHUA JONES BED DETAILS BELOW!

A SPLENDID GIFT FOR YOU!



THOMAS BED ADVERT ▼



For further information on the **Thomas the Tank Engine Bed**, **Bedhead** and **Toybox**, plus the complimentary blue bedroom furniture please call: **Joshua Jones Ltd 0258 858470**
or for a **FREE** colour brochure and price list please send a large stamped addressed envelope to: ***Joshua Jones Ltd, 1A Baillie Gate Ind. Est. Sturminster Marshall. Wimbourne. Dorset. BH21 4DB.***

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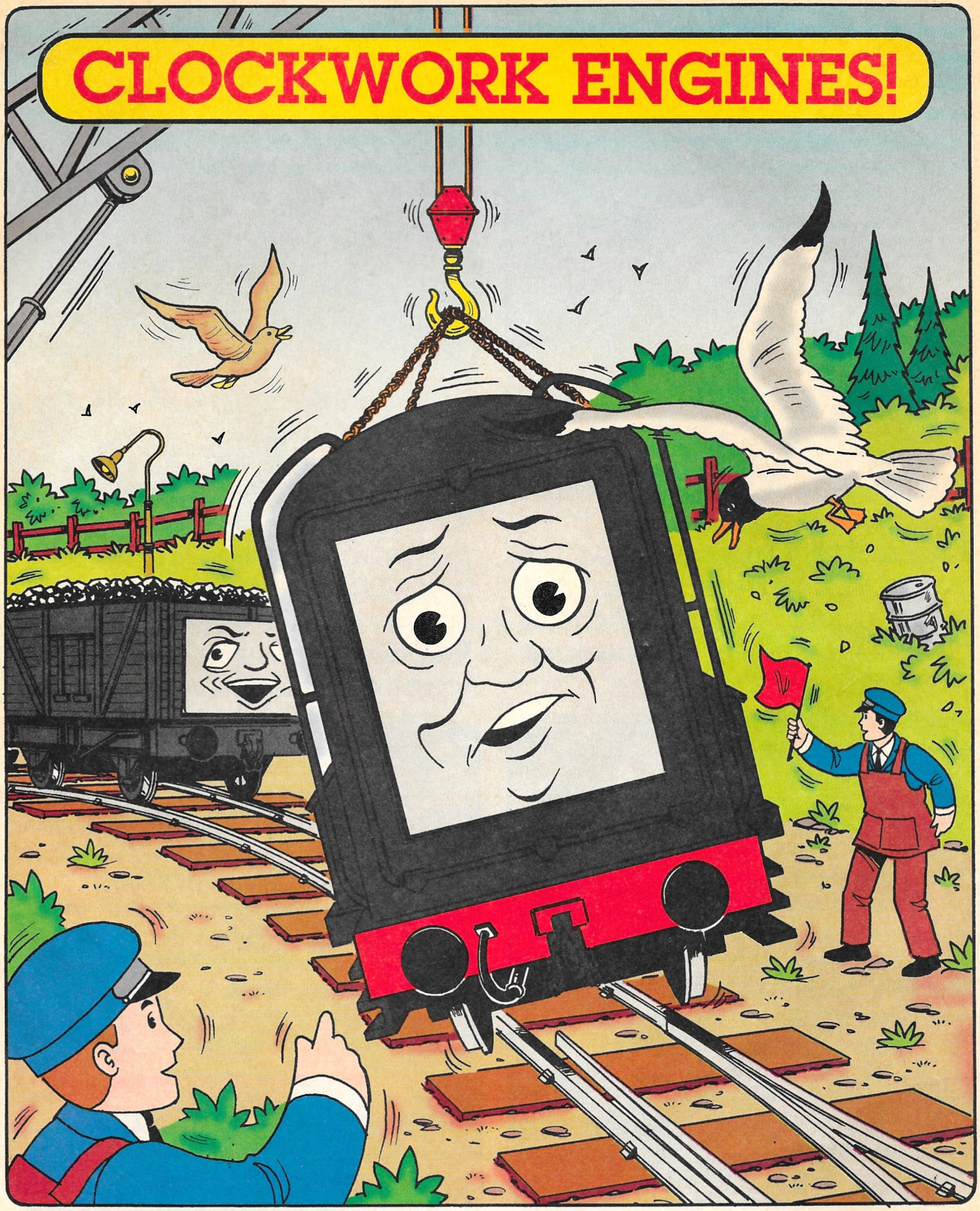
To apply for either subscription please fill out the appropriate section above and send this form, together with a cheque/postal order or credit card details to: **Thomas the Tank Engine & Friends Subscriptions, PO Box 500, Leicester LE99 0AA.**

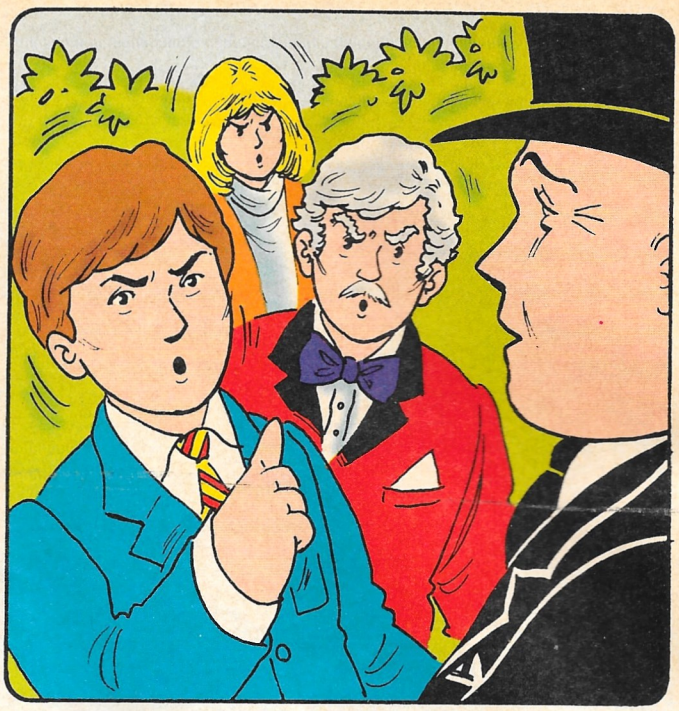
CLOCKWORK ENGINES!



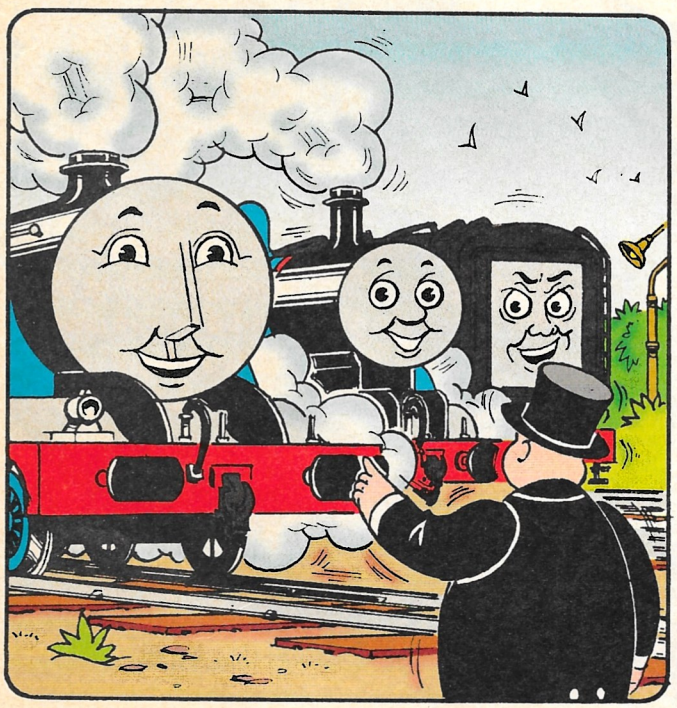
1. It was a very bad week for the engines. Everything seemed to be going wrong. Gordon was held up with the Express when a level-crossing gate jammed.

2. Diesel was unluckily derailed when some points stuck in a half-open position. It took a great deal of time and work to get him back on the line.

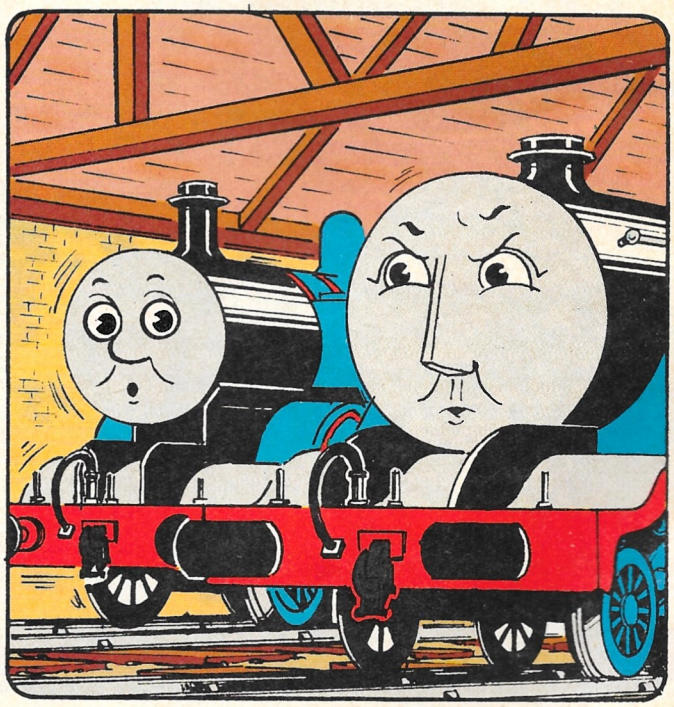
3. Then a chance spark from Thomas's funnel set a haystack alight near his branch line, so it had to be closed down until the blaze was safely put out.



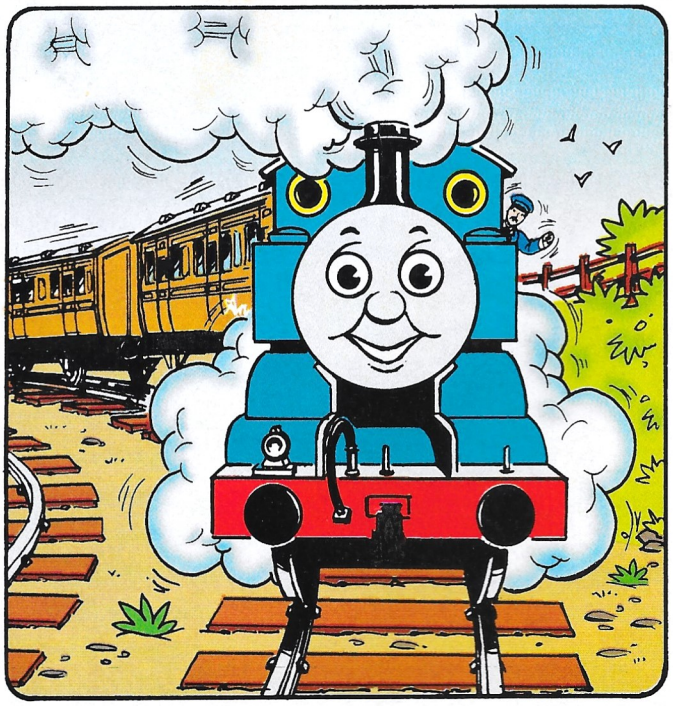
4. The delays meant lots of passengers were kept waiting. "Your trains are late!" some complained to the Fat Controller. "We don't want excuses!"



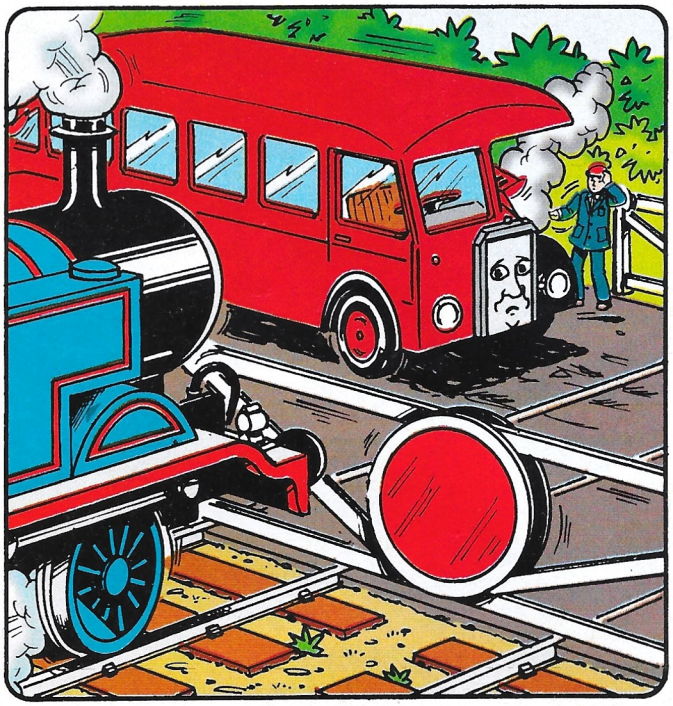
5. The Fat Controller said he was sorry. "My railway must be efficient!" he told his engines, later. "It's important that you all run like clockwork!"



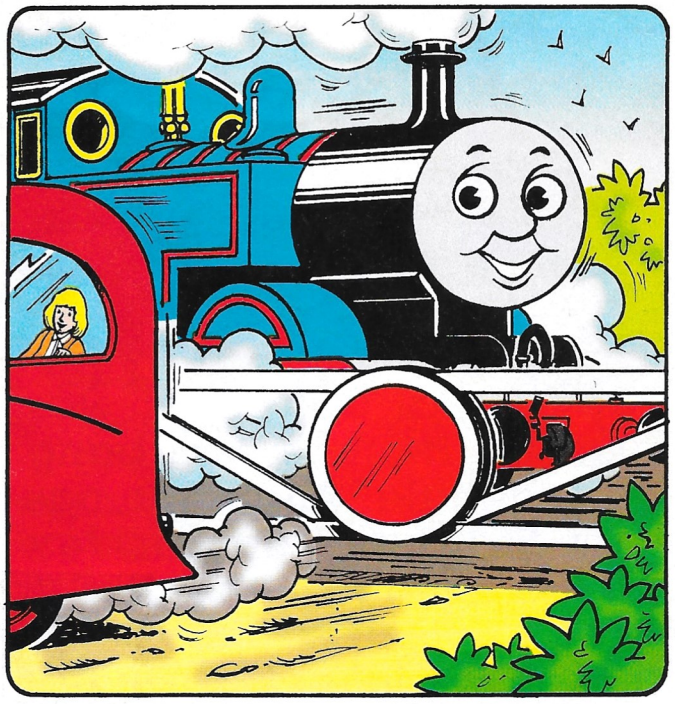
6. "What's 'clockwork'?" Thomas asked Gordon in the shed that night. "We aren't clocks!" "We don't tick!" huffed Gordon. "And clocks can't whistle!"



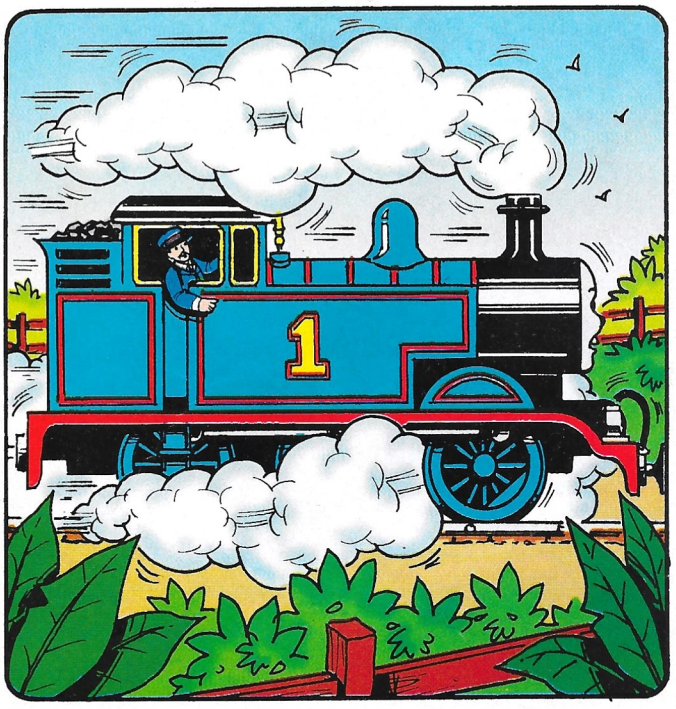
7. Next day, Thomas set off for the Big Harbour to collect ferry passengers. Among them were the Fat Controller's grandchildren, Stephen and Bridget.



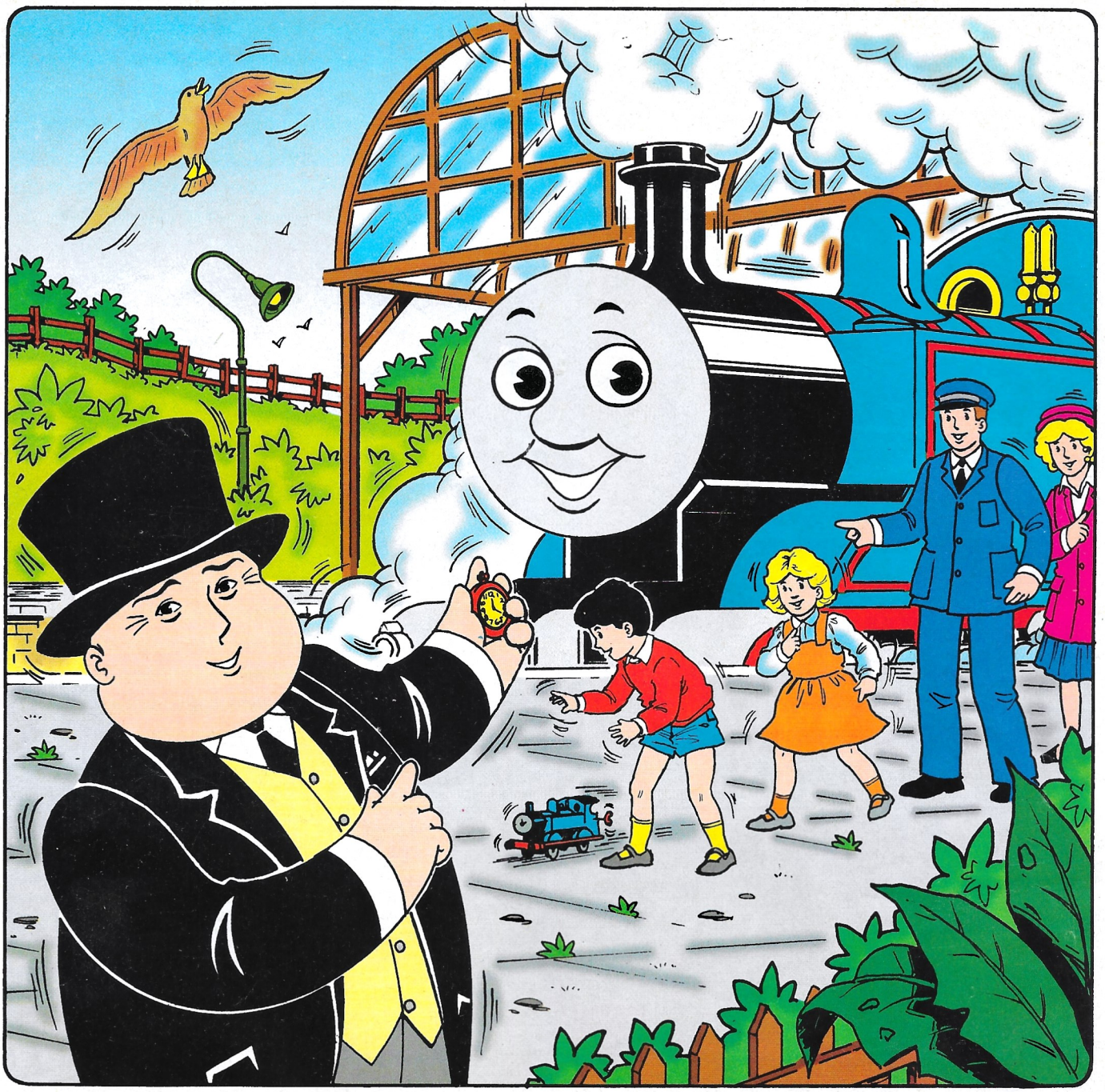
8. "I won't be late! I won't be late!" sang Thomas as he raced along. But suddenly, he saw Bertie had broken down on a level-crossing ahead.



9. Thomas had to pull up and wait until Bertie's driver could start the motor. At last, Bertie drove off and Thomas continued his journey.



10. "I'll meet the ferry even if I have to burst my boiler!" he puffed. His fireman threw more coal into the firebox. It was a tough race against time!



11. Thomas reached the Harbour Station just as the ferry docked. "Well done!" called his driver. Stephen and Bridget waved eagerly. Stephen showed Thomas his new toy engine. "It's driven by clockwork!" he said, winding it up with a key. Thomas was confused. He hurried back to the Main Station.

12. The Fat Controller was pleased Thomas was bang on schedule. Then Thomas saw Stephen run his toy engine along the platform. "Now I understand!" he thought. "Clockwork doesn't mean a clock at all!" Thomas told Gordon later. "If we're late, we just have to get all steamed up to run like clockwork engines!" **THE END!**

In our next issue: Getting through!